

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims, in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A battery casing comprising:
  - a) a bottom portion having a bottom and side walls forming a compartment for holding a battery acid and battery plates; and
  - b) a top portion for covering said compartment, wherein the bottom portion and top portion are formed of a flame retardant thermoplastic composition comprising a homopolymer, a copolymer, and a phosphate salt, the battery casing having a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus ~~greater than~~ of about 250,000 ~~260,000~~ psi or greater.
2. (Currently Amended) A battery casing formed of a flame-retardant thermoplastic composition, comprising:
  - a homopolymer;
  - a copolymer; and
  - a phosphate salt, the battery casing having a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus ~~greater than~~ of about 250,000 ~~260,000~~ psi or greater.
3. (Original) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the homopolymer includes Polypropylene.
4. (Original) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the homopolymer includes polyethylene.
5. (Original) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the copolymer includes ethylene and propylene.

6. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the homopolymer of the composition is in a range from about 33 to about 37 percent by weight of the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.
7. (Previously Presented) The battery casing Claim 2 wherein the copolymer of the composition is in a range from about 33 to about 37 percent by weight of the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.
8. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the ammonium polyphosphate comprises a flame-retardant systems having a melt flow rate in the range of 12.0 to 16.0g/10 min.
9. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the ammonium polyphosphate is in the range about 22 to about 29 percent by weight of the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.
10. (Original) The battery casing Claim 2 wherein the homopolymer and copolymer are selected from polyolefins.
11. (Previously Presented) the battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the homopolymer and copolymer comprise a crystalline product formed by polymerization of one or more monoolefins from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 2-methyl-1-propene, 3-methyl-1-pentene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, and 5-methyl-1-hexene.
12. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 11 wherein monoolefins are from the group consisting of propylene and ethylene.
13. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 12 wherein the polymerized polypropylene comprises a polymer from the group consisting of isotactic polymers of propylene, ethylene, and copolymers of propylene with ethylene.

14. (Original) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the thermoplastic composition, also includes a filler selected from the group consisting of aluminum trihydrate, hydrated magnesium, hydrated calcium silicate and calcium carbonate.
15. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 14 wherein said filler varies from about 0.5-250 parts per 100 parts of the homopolymer and copolymer.
16. (Original) The battery casing of Claim 14 wherein said filler further includes melamine and polyol.
17. (Original) The battery casing of Claim 2 which is included in a photovoltaic battery.
18. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 which is included in an automotive battery.
19. (Original) The battery casing of Claim 2 which is included in a backup battery.
20. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a flame-retardant composition for a battery casing comprising blending a homopolymer, copolymer and a phosphate salt together at a temperature in a range from about 340 to about 410°F to form the flame retardant composition, the composition having a melt flow rate in the range from about 9.6 to about 16.0g/10min., a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus ~~greater than~~ of about 250,000 260,000 psi or greater.
21. (Original) The method of Claim 20 wherein the composition is blended with two rotors having forward and reverse helix angles and said rotors are counterrotating and non-intermeshing.
22. (Original) The method of Claim 21 wherein the rotors have a diameter of about 3.84 inches and working length of about fourteen inches.

23. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the phosphate salt is ammonium polyphosphate.
24. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the phosphate salt is ethylene diamine phosphate salt.
25. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the battery casing has a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard at a thickness of greater than about 1/32 of an inch.
26. (Currently Amended) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the battery casing has a flexural modulus in the range of about ~~250,000~~ 260,000 psi to about 275,000 psi.
27. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the battery casing has a Gardner impact under the ASTM D3029 standard of greater than about 1 ft-lb/in at a thickness of about 1/8 of an inch.
28. (Currently Amended) The battery casing of Claim 1 wherein the flame retardant thermoplastic composition has a specific gravity in the range from about ~~0.95~~ 1.02 to about ~~1.25~~ 1.04.
29. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the phosphate salt is ammonium polyphosphate.
30. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the phosphate salt is ethylene diamine phosphate salt.
31. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the battery casing has a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard at a thickness of greater than about 1/32 of an inch.

32. (Currently Amended) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the battery casing has a flexural modulus in the range of about ~~250,000~~ 260,000 psi to about 275,000 psi.
33. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the battery casing has a Gardner impact under the ASTM D3029 standard of greater than about 1 ft-lb/in at a thickness of about 1/8 of an inch.
34. (Currently Amended) The battery casing of Claim 2 wherein the flame retardant thermoplastic composition has a specific gravity in the range from about ~~0.95~~ 1.02 to about ~~1.25~~ 1.04.
35. (Currently Amended) A battery casing comprising:
- a) a bottom portion having a bottom and side walls forming a compartment for holding a battery acid and battery plates;
  - b) top portion for covering said compartment, wherein the bottom portion and top portion are formed of a flame retardant thermoplastic composition comprising a homopolymer, a copolymer, and a phosphate salt, the flame retardant thermoplastic composition having a specific gravity in less than about 1.25 and the battery casing having a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard and a flexural modulus greater than about ~~228,000~~ 260,000 psi.
36. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the phosphate salt is ammonium polyphosphate.
37. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the phosphate salt is ethylene diamine phosphate salt.
38. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the battery casing has a burn rating of V-O under the UL-94 standard at a thickness of greater than about 1/32 of an inch.

39. (Currently Amended) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the battery casing has a flexural modulus greater than about ~~250,000~~ 270,000 psi.
40. (Previously Presented) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the battery casing has a Gardner impact under the ASTM D3029 standard of greater than about 1 ft-lb/in at a thickness of about 1/8 of an inch.
41. (Currently Amended) The battery casing of Claim 35 wherein the flame retardant thermoplastic composition has a specific gravity in the range from about ~~0.95~~ 1.02 to about ~~1.25~~ 1.04.